# **Transplant Center Tip Sheet**

# James D. Eason Transplant Institute Methodist University Hospital



#### **Referral Process**

Referrals are accepted from a referring nephrologist or dialysis center. We also accept self-referrals and pre-emptive transplant referrals.

Dialysis centers and referring physicians are notified that a referral has been received via fax.

Transplant Coordinator/ Scheduler will contact the patient to begin the evaluation process and set up education, clinic appointment and evaluation testing. All appointment notifications will be faxed to dialysis center and/or referring nephrologist.

#### Necessary forms for a referral:

- Copies of insurance cards and prescription drug cards
- List of Medications
- Hepatitis A and B vaccination dates
- Recent History and Physical
- Form 2728
- Current Labs
- Demographic Information
- Psychosocial Evaluation
- Nutritional Assessment

#### **Referral Best Practices**

- Only provide the requested information. The longer it takes to sort through unnecessary paperwork, the longer it takes for the patient to begin the wait list process.
- Please make sure all copies are legible.

# **Kidney Eligibility Criteria**

- Decline in creatinine clearance to less than 20cc/minute or
- Creatinine clearance between 20-30 with significant symptoms or
- Progressive renal dysfunction where decline in clearance is predictable (diabetic nephropathy or symptomatic nephropathy with suitable living donor available along with one of the above)

## **Kidney Exclusionary Criteria**

#### Absolute contraindications:

- Advanced non-reconstructable vascular disease
- Uncompensated pulmonary dysfunction
- Disseminated systemic infection (including AIDS, current tuberculosis, aspergillosis)
- Disabling uncorrectable autonomic neuropathies
- Untreated or uncontrolled major psychiatric illness
- Untreated malignancy

#### Relative contraindications:

- Non-rehabilitated substance abuse, or other maladaptive behavior determined by treating physicians to pose risk for non-compliance
- Recently resected or treated malignancy
- Myocardial infarction within past
   6 months and/or angina at rest
- Age 75 or older
- Uninsured or under insured patients (will be handled on a case by case basis). Information on fundraising will be provided to patients as required.

- Pregnancy
- Active renal disease with unreasonably high chance of recurrence (such as active lupus, until disease markers indicate quiescence)
- Medical unsuitability due to cardiopulmonary debility or other confounding medical conditions as determined by treating physicians

#### **Evaluation Process**

#### **Evaluation Day 1:**

Watch Educational Video (also available online at <a href="https://www.methodisthealth.org/transplant">www.methodisthealth.org/transplant</a> for patient to watch pre appointment); Q & A

- Includes Education on Living Donation
   Meet with Team Members
- Financial Case Manager
- Nurse Coordinator
- Nephrologist

#### Testing:

- EKG
- Chest X-Ray
- Labs
- CT scan of abdomen and pelvis

#### **Evaluation Day 2:**

- Nuclear Stress Test
- ECHO
- Cardiac Clearance

#### **Evaluation Day 3:**

- Surgeon Visit
- Social Worker
- Dietitian

Order of testing between Day 1, 2 and 3 may vary based on the patient's medical condition.

#### **Best Practices**

- Maintain a Transplant binder to include a tracking sheet to track each patient through the referral process including appointment dates and reasons for denial or hold. Create a tab for each patient to include their referral and appointment letters as well as any other pertinent information. Templates are available from Network 8 if needed.
- Ensure that you have a back-up person at each facility who is familiar with the transplant tracking process and the location of your transplant binder and can communicate with the transplant centers in your absence.

#### **Selection Committee**

- Multi-disciplinary selection committee
- Either deemed not a candidate for transplant, may be placed on hold for further evaluation or approved for transplantation/listing on the UNOS wait list.
- Notification of listing sent to patient, referring Nephrologist and Dialysis Center; also notified when patients are removed from the list
- Begin living donor evaluation if recipient has a living donor
  - Discuss Pair Kidney Exchange Program (NKR)

#### **Annual Evaluation**

- While listed, patient will be contacted annually for re-evaluation testing
- Patient and dialysis center should notify transplant clinic should there be changes in the patient's medical status, insurance, address or phone

### **Transplant Tracking**

- Our transplant program will provide patient updates throughout the evaluation process. Many of these will be sent to dialysis centers via Fax.
- It is recommended that dialysis centers keep a binder with a spreadsheet tracking referral, appointment and listing information.

# **Patient Status Reports**

Patient Status Reports are available upon request.

#### **Contact Information**

Dialysis Liaison Contact:
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